



AFA presents awards at convention

The Texas Air Force Association presented several awards at its annual convention July 23-25 in Ft. Worth.

They include:

Airman of the year

— Staff Sgt. James Garrett

Civilian of the year

— David Stoltz

Civilian organization of the year —

USAA

Teacher of the year

— Beverly Hallmark

Christa Mc Auliffe

Memorial Award —

Dee Dee Larson

Other San Antonio military award winners include:

Technical training instructor of the year

— Master Sgt. Phillip Coolberth



Staff Sgt. James Garrett, center, poses for a picture with Ed Garland, Texas AFA President, and John Politi, AFA National, Chairman of the Board, after being recognized as the Texas AFA Airman of the year at the Texas AFA convention July 23-25 in Ft. Worth.

Air Intelligence

Agency airman of the year — Mandy D. Mor-
den

Scientists of the year

— Capt. John M.
McQuade and Dr.
Patrick Mason

**Recruiting officer of
the year** — Capt. Bev-

erly Brown

**Recruiting airman
of the year** — Tech.
Sgt. James Miller

Alamo chapter announces Air Force Birthday Ball

The Alamo Chapter of the Air Force Association will celebrate the 57th Anniversary of the Air Force by sponsoring a birthday ball Sept. 18 at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

Former Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, retired Chief Master Sgt. Bob Gaylor is the scheduled guest speaker.

WHERE — Gateway Club Ballroom, Lackland Air Force Base.

WHEN — Saturday, Sept. 18; 6 p.m. social hour - 7 p.m. dinner.

WHY — Celebrating the 57th anniversary of the United States Air Force.

COST — \$30 per ticket; E-5 and junior \$20, GS-9 and junior \$20.

MEAL — Beef tenderloins and grilled chicken breast with white wine sauce, tossed salad, twice baked potatoes, broccoli spears and rolls with butter, tea and coffee and of course birthday cake.

DRESS — Military - mess dress/semi formal; Civilian - black tie.

SPEAKER — Chief Master Sgt. Bob Gaylor, Former Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force.

This year's Air Force Ball theme is, "Total Force...Projecting Air

and Space Power."

This year's unit sponsor, the 433 Airlift Wing, invites you to join them in paying tribute to the immense contributions of our service members.

All attendees will receive a commemorative coin of the event. Professional portraits will be available for an additional charge.

All tickets must be purchased by Sept. 13. To purchase tickets, please see your unit ticket monitor, or send a check to: AF Birthday Ball, 8406 Cadmus, San Antonio, TX, 78214-3001.

President's Page

Thanks for quick, great two years

Dan O'Neal

Alamo AFA President

Thank you! It has been a quick two years since taking charge of the Alamo Chapter, and I have enjoyed every bit of it.

I have really appreciated the great support I've gotten from all those involved. We have gone through lots of changes together, and I hope we've made a stronger and more involved organization. You have a great slate of candidates ready to take charge and lead us into the future. I fully support them and know they will do a great job of both the chapter and you.

I would especially like to thank Joyce Hons for countless years of dedicated support. Joyce has decided to step down from her position a treas-



O'Neal

urer to take a much needed break. She has been one of the many rocks of this organization, and her constant involvement will surely be missed.

Please look for the annual Air Force Birthday Ball and Loos Awards Banquet. These are great events coming in September and October.

2 Alamo area spouses receive scholarships

The Aerospace Education Foundation awarded scholarships to Texas Air Force spouses pursuing their undergraduate or post graduate degrees.



Nicole Corella of San Antonio was awarded an MS in Health Care Administration from Capella University and Amavi Hawkins of Randolph Air Force Base is an undergraduate Nursing Student at the UTHSC at San Antonio.

These \$1000 scholarships are awarded annually to spouses of Air Force active duty, reserve or national guard members worldwide. Spouse scholarship applicants must have a 3.5 grade point average and have concrete goals for the future.

The newly created Alamo Air Force Association Aerospace Education Foundation plans a similar program for Alamo AFA members and immediate family members for three \$500 scholarships, which will be announced later in the year.

AFA license plates now available

AFA-Texas automobile license plates are ready to be ordered from the Texas Department of Transportation.

These special plates cost \$30 over the cost of the regular plates; \$8 of this goes to the State and the remaining \$22 goes into escrow for AFA to draw on.

It is intended that there will be enough income from this each year so that the chapters will no longer be assessed and money will be rebated to the chapters.

The plates can be ordered anytime. You do not need to wait until your

current plate expires.

The process is:

Fill out a TxDOT form VTR-999 available from TxDOT web site: <http://www.dot.state.tx.us/vtr/spplates/specialplate.htm?nbr=132>

Send the form with your check for \$30 to TxDOT

TxDOT will send the license plates to your County Tax Office for you to pick up.

Please support this program that will benefit AFA scholarships in Texas.

Awards banquet slated

The Loos Civilian Awards Banquet is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Oct. 28 at the Airport Hilton.

Cost is \$22.50 per person.

Details to follow through Unit Ticket Monitors and at www.alamoafa.org.

National chairman speaks at convention

The following are excerpts from a speech given by John J Politi, Air Force Association National Chairman of the Board, at the Texas AFA Convention, July 24 in Ft. Worth, Texas.

We are engaged in a war against terrorism. Our enemy has the expressed purpose of killing us and has demonstrated a capability to achieve that objective.

The war on terror did not begin on 9/11 and did not end with the transition to civilian authority in Iraq last month. We are in the midst of what our enemy calls the "Third Great Jihad" and he is operating within a framework of time that reaches back to the creation of Islam in the 7th century and looks forward many years into the future. For example, the "First Great Jihad" began in 632 and was characterized by enormous growth of the Islam religion in the Middle East.

The "Second Great Jihad" began in the 15th century, some seven hundred years later, with the rise of the Ottoman Empire.

The "Third Great Jihad" traces its roots to the early part of the 20th century with the revival of anti-western and anti-Christian sentiments in an Islam sect known as Wahabbism. Its most glaring practice appears in the policies of the Taliban in Afghanistan and the Shiite Muslims of the late Ayatollah Khoumeni in Iran. Its strategy was not implemented on 9/11; it began with the

toppling of the Shah of Iran in the late 1970s because of his efforts to westernize his country and his close ties with the United States. With that success, the Wahhabi Muslims gained a base of operations and the oil wealth needed to expand their influence further and pursue their grand design, or "Great Caliphate", as they call it.

Today, they have four stated strategies:

(1) paralyze western resistance and force the United States to withdraw from the Middle East much like we did from Southeast Asia after the Vietnam Conflict, and much like they have already forced the Spanish to do;

(2) gain control of the oil wealth in the Muslim countries of the Middle East, which amount to some 75% of the world's reserves; you can imagine the impact on the west and the United States in particular if our enemies controlled that vital resource;

(3) replace all secular leadership in any country with a Muslim majority; this includes Egypt, Pakistan, Indonesia, and virtually all Middle Eastern countries, and Israel, which they consider to be an occupied territory; and

(4) annihilate ISRAEL and eliminate all Israelis from the face of the earth.

This is a ruthless bunch we are dealing with, and we had better understand them. Fortunately, the

President and administration leaders have gained an understanding of Wahhabi Muslim objectives and have taken strong action to stifle their progress.

Yet, America is criticized, even ridiculed, by some of the very people and governments that we have liberated in the past. Last year, Secretary of State Colin Powell was in London explaining our intentions in Iraq to a group of dignitaries. When he finished his remarks, the Archbishop of Canterbury asked the Secretary if America's incursion into Iraq wasn't just another example of American imperialism. Secretary Powell responded as follows:

"Many times in our history America has sent some of its finest young men and women into great peril beyond our borders to fight for freedom, and the only land we have ever asked for in return is enough to bury those who would not be returning home."

I ask all of you steadfastly support our President in the war on terror until it is brought to a successful conclusion; I ask all of you to advocate for a strong national defense and a strong stand against terrorism to our elected officials and the American people; I ask all of you to support the men and women who serve our country in every way possible; and I ask all of you to ask that GOD BLESS AMERICA.

Aerospace Education Foundation to help support UTSA "Roadmap To Excellence"

The Alamo AFA has long supported UTSA with scholarships and programs in support of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps.

Our Foundation President, Dr. Kaye H. Biggar, served on the committee that established the original engineering program and he now serves on the Advisory Council of the College of Engineering,

as does community partner, G.P. Singh of KARTA Technologies.

We are currently exploring establishment of Scholarship Programs in support of the new Center for Infrastructure Assurance and Security and to attract national attention to the program that San Antonio has unique resources, unduplicated anywhere else,

for this vital Homeland Defense effort.

We also plan to support, in conjunction with the national Aerospace Education Foundation, three of UTSA President, Ricardo Romo's, initiatives; creation of Distinguished Chairs, recruiting top level faculty and expanding key partnerships with other institutions and the military.

Nominating committee report

PRESIDENT —

Andy Nodine

EXEC VP —

John Blumentritt

SECRETARY —

Kaye Biggar

TREASURER —

David Stoltz

Send concurrence or write-in candidate to: kbiggar@aol.com or mail to 8406 Cadmus, San Antonio, Texas 78214-3001.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Community Partners assist the Alamo Chapter in a number of valuable areas.

- Air Force Credit Union
- Air Force Village
- Airport Hilton
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- Beldon Roofing Company
- Brite Blinds of Texas
- City Public Service
- Eisenhower National Bank
- Fisher House, Inc.
- Frost Bank
- Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce
- Karta Technologies, Inc.
- Main Street Garage
- Randolph-Brooks Federal Credit Union
- San Antonio Credit Union
- Security Service Federal Credit Union
- Southwest Business Corporation
- Texas Computer Help
- USAA

Care to Join Us? Want to support your AFA?

Would you like to join the list of outstanding businesses listed here?

As a community partner you will receive a copy of the Air Force Magazine each month, have your company name included here and on programs at our events throughout the year and on our Web page.

You will be invited to quarterly breakfasts conducted by Air Force organizations and to all of our events. All for just \$75.00 per year or \$150.00 for two memberships.

For more information, contact John Di Piero, jdi Piero@satx.rr.com, 210-945-7874.

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